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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.: 09/889,099

Filing Date: 22 October 2001

Title: FLAT LIGHT SOURCE

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FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rules 1.56 and 1.98, Reference AR listed on Form PTO-1449 is cited and discussed on Page 2 of the Substitute Specification of the referenced U.S. Patent Application and is brought to the attention of the Examiner as being possibly material to examination of this Patent Application. Reference AA is the equivalent of European Patent Reference 031 479, cited in the International Search Report for corresponding International Patent Application PCT/EP 00/00147.

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

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David H. Paulsen
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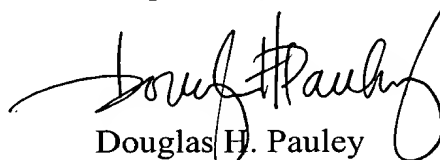
Serial No.: 09/889,099

The remaining references listed on Form PTO-1449 are also brought to the attention of the Examiner as being possibly material to examination of this Patent Application.

Form PTO-1449 (1 page) is enclosed with a copy of each and every reference cited on Form PTO-1449.

Applicants received a copy of the Notice of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. 371 and 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 and note that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received and thus the National Stage file contains a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited in the International Search Report. Applicants understand that pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), the Examiner will consider the references cited in the International Search Report, without any further action by Applicants under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. Because there is no requirement for the Examiner to list the references cited in the International Search Report, Applicants will understand that the Examiner has in fact considered the references cited in the International Search Report.

Respectfully submitted,



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